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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1947.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

B. ROWORTH TURNER,
B.A., M.B., B.C. Cantab.

OUNDLE:
ALFRED KING AND SON, PRINTERS.

OUNDLE,

August, 1948.

To the Oundle Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to report on the Health of the Town during 1947.

The town stands at a height varying from 60 to 200 feet above sea-level.

It comprises an area of 2,075 acres, exclusive of that occupied by water.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population is 2,379.

There are 661 inhabited houses, according to the Rate Books at the end of 1947.

The Rateable Value is £18,406.

The principal industry is a brewery ; there is also a small boot factory.

There is an important Public School with over 600 resident scholars, a Grammar School, an Elementary and Oundle County Modern School.

Vital Statistics.

Live Births number 39 ...	Male=17,	Female=22		
Legitimate	,,	15	,,	21
Illegitimate...	,,	2	,,	1

There was one Still Birth.

Birth Rate=16·3 per 1000.

Deaths.

There were 29 deaths ... ... Male 17, Female 12.

There were no deaths of Infants under 1 year.

Death Rate=12·1 per 1000.

Infantile Death Rate=0 per 1000.

Causes of Death :	Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1
	Tuberculosis .:.	2
	Cancer	6
	Heart Disease	7
	Pneumonia	1
	Suicide	2
	Other Causes	10

Notifications of Zymotic Diseases.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Chicken Pox	2
Measles	39

Diphtheria Immunization.

Under five years	Estimated 108
Five to fourteen years	Estimated 249

Estimated mid-year population under 5=190.
Estimated mid-year population 5–14=290.

General Provision of Health Services.

Medical Officer of Health : B. R. Turner, B.A., M.B., B.Ch.
Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector : Mr. H. W. Bolton, M.Inst.M. & Cy.Eng., Cert. R.S.I.
Rating and Valuation Officer : Mr. A. B. A. Wright.
District Nurses : Nurse Missen and Nurse Cates.
Health Visitor : Miss Miller.
Hospital : Public Assistance Infirmary.
Ambulance : St. John Ambulance Association.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Oundle is a clean town and the streets are well kept.

WATER.—The supply is hard, but good both in quantity and quality. Quarterly analyses are made, and others if necessary. All analyses have been good. The water is softened and chlorinated.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—These are efficient and in good order.

Refuse is cleared twice a week.

There is no pollution of the river.

SHOPS.—See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Swimming Baths and Pool.—There is a bathing pool at the river under the Council's direction and supervision.

Oundle School has a large open-air bath.

Smoke Abatement.—No nuisance has arisen.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.—No case has arisen.

Housing.—The Housing Estate on the New Road grows very slowly.

The absence of Infectious Disease, or, rather, its low incidence in Oundle, is interesting and suggests that sanitation in all its branches is in a very satisfactory state.

I append the Surveyor's Report.

I am,
Yours faithfully,
B. R. TURNER, B.A., M.B., B.C. Cantab.

Oundle Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT OF WATERWORKS ENGINEER, SURVEYOR AND SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Dear Sir,

I herewith submit my Report of work carried out for the year ended 31st December, 1947.

Public Water Supply.

A pure and constant Water Supply has been maintained throughout the year.

The consumption is above normal.

The water is softened from 29 to 12 to 14 degrees of hardness.

Quarterly Bacteriological Examinations have been excellent, no harmful organisms were found in any of the samples, and the Chemical Analysis was also excellent.

Number of population supplied direct to the houses, 2,709. Supplied by standpipes, 112.

Main Sewers.

The main sewers have been regularly inspected and flushed and are in order.

Sewage Outfall Works.

The Sewage Outfall Works have been well maintained.

Sewer Rodent Control.

As directed by the Ministry of Food, 75% of the manholes were pre-baited—total takes only 6. Poison baits were then laid—only 4 complete baits were taken ; no bodies were found.

Rat Campaign.

The campaign against rats was carried out by the Pests Department of the Northamptonshire Agricultural Committee : approximately 432 rats were destroyed. A further 281 rats were destroyed during the year, making a grand total of 713. A large amount of poison was given to the public on application.

Food Inspection.

On request the undermentioned commodities were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Evaporated Milk	99 tins.
Tinned Meat	8 tins.
Jam	19 tins.
Peas	74 tins.
Fish	17 tins.
Pork Pies	4
Flour	1 bag.
Cheese	45 lbs.

Infectious Disease.

All infected and dirty houses were fumigated and bedding and clothes treated at the Institution in the steam disinfector.

Milk and Dairies Order.

Regular inspections have been made.

Tuberculin tested milk is being produced at the Stoke Road and Ashton Road Dairy Farms.

Clean Milk Production (Keeping Quality).

12 samples of Raw and T.T. Milk and Pasteurised were taken during the year.

11 samples were designated Good.

1 sample of T.T. Milk was Bad.

Houses examined showing Cause for Action.

Infectious Disease...	*nil*
Dirty Houses	1
Overcrowding...	3
Defective Drainage and Fittings and General Repairs	64
Other Causes	3

NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED.

1. Statutory	*nil*
2. Preliminary and Letters	23

INSPECTIONS OTHER THAN NUISANCES.

Works in Progress	78
Bakehouses, Dairies, Cowsheds, Factories and Workshops	24

Drainage and Sanitation.

Improvements have been carried out to 44 houses.

6 houses have been completely redrained and with water carriage system and septic tank constructed. Town water has been laid on to each house and sinks provided.

Ice Cream Regulations, 1947.

4 Certificates of Registration have been issued for the manufacture and sale of ice cream—2 only for manufacture.

Civil Building Control—Licences.

On behalf of the Minister of Works, the writer has granted 108 Licences for new flats, repairs and renovation of houses and other properties.

New Houses.

8 new houses on the Council Housing Site have been occupied and a further 8 houses are under construction.

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

1 bungalow has been completed and 6 houses are in course of construction.

Yours truly,
H. W. BOLTON,
M. Inst. M. & Cy. Eng., Cert. R.S.I.,
Water Engineer, Surveyor
and Sanitary Inspector.

18th February, 1948.